WAMH Records

four college broadcasting committee 1965

Box 2 Folder 31

Note: This is a partial account of what is in the offing for Network broadcasting this year. -RB

Four College Broadcasting Systeem
Meeting of Oct. 21, 1965

The meeting was called to order by Bob Barbari of WAMF, chairman of the system. The first part of the discussion was devoted to the technical side of the network. WMHC hopes to be able to receive both WAMF and WFCR by next week, by means of a KLH tuner. Less easily resolved were the problems connected with receiving WMHC in Amherst and connecting the three Amherst stations by telephone line. It was decided that a line would be installed between WAMF, WFCR, AND WMUA, and that WFRC would bear the cost until WAMF and WMUA could bring the problem before their respective student senates. George Drake of WMUA volunteered to look into the problems connected with receiving WMHC on Mount Lincoln. WFCR has offered the use of a receiver that is already there, but which will have to be converted for network use. There will also be a need for a triple A line connecting the Mount and WFCR. It was not resolved who would pay for such a line. Mr. Al Hulsen of WFCR suggested that the network approach Bob Whitney, Four College Coordinator, with our ideas and try to get some money appropiated for our purposes. The possibility of a line to Smith was also discussed, but was put aside until more major problems will have been solved.

The managers of the three college stations decided to combine their efforts to get their staffs licensed, and hold inter-college classes, probably at U. Mass. Cynthia Crounse of WMHC volunteered to write to the FCC in Boston and see if a special test date could be arranged.

The remainder of the discussion was devoted to the questions of the network's aims and its programing. Bob stressed the importance of regular programming. It was decided that the first network show would be Newsprobe, oringinating at WAMF, and being broadcast every Sunday at 11 pm. It was decided to set up a four-week cycle, in which Amherst would be responsible for two tapes, WMUA and WMHC for one.

The meeting was adjourned, to be resumed at 5:30, Thursday, Oct. 29.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Crounse

Pioneer Broadcasting System
November 4, 1965

The meeting was called to order by Bob Barberi at 8:10, in the Day Student Room at Mt. Holyoke College. The possibility of an ESP jazz concert sponsered by the three radio stations was briefly discussed. Sue Snyder of WMHC volunteered to look into details.

The main topic of discussion was the programming to be involved in PBS. The possibility of having live performers on network shows was discussed. WMUA plans to tape live performances for air use; WAMF features live performers on Folk Anthology. It was decided, however, that the network would start out with two regularly scheduled shows: Newsprobe, originating at WAMF, but involving some assistance in the matter of interviews from WMUA and WMHC, and The Sound of Literature, originating from WMHC. Newsprobe will be broadcast at 11 pm Sunday evenings. Wmhc will broadcast The Sound live Tuesdays, tape it, and get it to Amherst to be rebroadcast Sundays at 7 pm. The kick-off date for both programs was set for Sunday, ~~December 5.~~ November 28. It was suggested that WMUA think up a program, as the other schools in the area are very ignorant as to what the university is like, and would like to be informed.

A tecnical problem was discovered, in that the tuner at WMHC only picks up WMHC when the station is on. George Drake offered to help WMHC clear up this difficulty. The line between WFCR, WMUA, and WAMF is not in yet. The crystal has been ordered for the receiver on Mt. Lincoln.

Plans were made for publicizing PBS. Bob Carson and Bob Barberi will take care of "big time" publicity, i. e. the Times and so on. Each station will be responsible for the inital push on its campus. The publicity director at WMUA will eventually act as a kind of clearing house for PBS.

It was decided that the Board would meet at Amherst Monday where ? afternoons to plan each week's schedule, preferably a week in advance. The next meeting will be at 3:30 pm, Monday, November 15, at Amherst.

Submitted,

Cynthia Evans

Pioneer Broadcasting System
November 22, 1965

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Bob Barbari. It was decided that the first network presentation will be the Commager versus Friedman debate on Friday, December 3rd. The debate will originate at Amherst. The "Sound of Literature" and "Newsprobe" will be broadcast for the first time on Sunday, December 5th.

Amherst agreed to cooperate with WMHC in the presentation of an ESP jazz concert later in the year. Sue Snyder of WMHC is in charge of the concert.

It was suggested that PBS adopt some kind of insignia for use on posters, etc. It was also decided that each station would allocate $10 for the purchase of large posters with the network's title printed on them in red. Sue Snyder of WMHC volunteered to look into this project.

It was decided to notify the FCC that our station members are ready to take the Third Class test. Cynthia Crounse therefore contacted the FCC and requested a testing date during either the second or third week after Thanksgiving vacation.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cynthia Crounse

This brief was prepared for Prof. Whitney (Four-College Coordinator) to be submitted to the presidents of the four institutions at their next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Robert O. Barberi
Director of Public Affairs, WAMF

THE PIONEER BROADCASTING SYSTEM

The purpose of PBS is to join the student radio stations of Amherst College, Mount Holyoke College, and the University of Massachussetts in order to facilitate communication between the three colleges. The network will enable the stations involved to produce a range and variety of educational programming that would be impossible for each member station to achieve on its own. Nearly 150 students on the three campuses will be involved in PBS.

In order to have a network system, the following arrangements are necessary:

1. The installment of a receiver and amplifier on Mt. Lincoln, so that WMHC (Mt. Holyoke) can be received, and a line extending from Mt. Lincoln to WMUA (Univ. of Mass.), so that programming originating in South Hadley can be relayed to Amherst.
2. The installment of a line extending from WMUA to WAMF at Amherst College, thereby completing the system. (WHMC will pick up programming originating at the other two stations by means of a new radio tuner.)

According to Mr. Francis Dresser of WFCR, the line from Mt. Lincoln to WMUA will cost approximately $50 per month, and the line from WMUA to WAMF will cost about $12 per month. WFCR (which will benefit from this arrangement by being permitted to use these lines for live pickup from each campus for its own purposes) has agreed to provide the amplifier and receiver at Mt. Lincoln. These two lines are all that are needed to begin broadcasting between the three institutions. In time, the network plans to add a line to Smith College for direct transmition of live events from that campus. (Incidentally, WMUA and WAMF are both well received and well patronized at Smith College.)

At the moment, PBS has two distinct functions in mind. To begin with, the network will provide two scheduled shows each week: "Newsprobe," a half-hour news commentary and interview show originating at WAMF, and "The Sound of Literature," a half-hour show originating at WMHC in which students and professors discuss and illustrate with readings a wide range of literary topics. Both shows are of professional quality. PBS's second function will be to provide "special" coverage of important events, such as the UMass Teach-In, lectures, such as Mr. McCloud at Amherst last year, and productions, such as "Eugene Onegin" at Amherst Regional Auditorium.

Both in terms of four-college cooperation and in terms of service to an audience extending from Springfield to Greenfield, we believe this limited primary expense would seem well worth while.